
SENATE BILL 6110

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Senators Poulsen, Morton, Kline and Kohl-Welles

Read first time 02/22/2007. Referred to Committee on Water, Energy & Telecommunications.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating the office of Washington state
2 climatologist; and adding a new chapter to Title 43 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The office of Washington state
5 climatologist is created.

6 (2) The office of Washington state climatologist consists of the
7 director of the office, who is the state climatologist, and appropriate
8 staff and administrative support as necessary to carry out the powers
9 and duties of the office as enumerated in section 2 of this act.

10 (3) The director of the office of Washington state climatologist
11 must be appointed jointly by the president of Washington State
12 University and the president of the University of Washington. The
13 office of Washington state climatologist is administered as determined
14 jointly by these two presidents.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The office of Washington state climatologist
16 has the following powers and duties:

17 (1) To serve as a credible and expert source of climate and weather

1 information for state and local decision makers and agencies working on
2 drought, flooding, climate change, and other related issues;

3 (2) To gather and disseminate, and where practicable archive, in
4 the most cost-effective manner possible, all climate and weather
5 information that is or could be of value to policy and decision makers
6 in the state;

7 (3) To act as the representative of the state in all climatological
8 and meteorological matters, both within and outside of the state, when
9 requested by the legislative or executive branches of the state
10 government;

11 (4) To prepare, publish, and disseminate climate summaries for
12 those individuals, agencies, and organizations whose activities are
13 related to the welfare of the state and are affected by climate and
14 weather;

15 (5) To supply critical information for drought preparedness and
16 emergency response as needed to implement the state's drought
17 contingency response plan maintained by the department of ecology under
18 RCW 43.83B.410, and to serve as a member of the state's drought water
19 supply and emergency response committees as may be formed in response
20 to a drought event;

21 (6) To conduct and report on studies of climate and weather
22 phenomena of significant socioeconomic importance to the state; and

23 (7) To evaluate the significance of natural and man-made changes in
24 important features of the climate affecting the state, and to report
25 this information to those agencies and organizations in the state who
26 are likely to be affected by these changes.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act constitute a
28 new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

--- END ---